

Region 1
Hot Topics

- **First Exceedance of the year of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Ozone in Danbury**

In a typical year, ozone exceedances will start to be recorded in April or May. However, this year, due to an unusually wet spring (21 days with rain in April and 17 days with rain in May), conditions have not been favorable for ozone development. The first exceedance of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standard of 70 parts per billion (ppb) was June 5 with an 8-hr average of 71 ppb in Danbury, CT. The previous latest first exceedance was an 8-hr average of 81 ppb on June 1, 2011, also in Danbury, CT. Without measured ozone exceedances, three monitors in Connecticut already have preliminary 2017 – 2019 design values above 70 ppb. It should be noted that a late start to the ozone season does not predict the rest of the season.

- **Fort Devens, Ayer, MA**

Temporary GAC filters were delivered and set in place on June 5 to eventually treat the Town of Ayer's Well 8 water for PFOA/PFOS, then return this water into Ayer's existing drinking water treatment plant for metals removal, prior to entering the town's drinking water distribution system. The Ayer DPW worked with Army's contractor to complete piping connections and other equipment preparations. MassDEP will be inspecting the installation this week. Army will perform start-up and water quality testing before placing the system online.

- **Pollution Prevention Video**

On June 6, a YouTube Video - Striving to Make Great Beer and a Difference for the Environment, Vermont Green Brewery Partnership - [[HYPERLINK](https://youtube/9Bw47PCmh8) "https://youtube/9Bw47PCmh8"] was posted. The video highlights work from a pollution prevention grant with the Vermont Department of Conservation and EPA New England's Smart Sectors Program focusing on food and beverage processors. The Region plans to use the video in Regional social media efforts.

- **Springfield, MA Public Meeting on Long Island Sound NPDES Permits**

On June 7, staff attended a public meeting with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection in Springfield where EPA's municipal permitting strategy for total nitrogen discharges from waste water treatment plants within the Long Island Sound watershed was presented. The meeting was attended by 60 people from municipalities, environmental groups, and the state of Connecticut. A second meeting will be held on June 21 in Greenfield, MA. EPA plans to release three draft permits in the Long Island Sound watershed in the next two weeks to Lee, Lenox, and Great Barrington.

- **Mobile Source Enforcement Training for EPA and State Staff**

On June 11–12, Region 1 hosted an OECA-led mobile source enforcement training for EPA and state staff. The training covered inspection of imported vehicles and engines as well as tampering of emission controls on heavy duty vehicles. The training supports credentialing of EPA inspectors and OECA's National Compliance Initiative for the FY2020-23 cycle, focused on stopping aftermarket defeat devices for vehicles and engines. Only EPA has authority to pursue violations of the mobile source provisions of the CAA.

- **Charles River Report Card**

On June 12, the Acting Regional Administrator announced the release of the Charles River Report Card at Magazine Beach in Cambridge, MA. Many partners attended including the the Massachusetts Departments of Environmental Protection and Conservation and Recreation, as well as the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. In 2018, the Charles River Watershed Association conducted monthly water quality samples at 10 sites. Based on bacterial water quality in the river during 2018, EPA gave the Charles River a grade of “B”. While the grade dipped this year, EPA has still seen significant improvement in the river’s overall water quality since the 1995 launch of EPA’s Charles River Initiative, and the release of the first report card when the river was scored at a “D”.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **New Hampshire State Leadership Region 1 Meeting**

The Regional Administrator and Region 1 Division Directors and leadership from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services will be meeting on June 18th in Concord, NH. This annual meeting provides an opportunity for leadership teams to discuss areas of collaboration and review issues that need further discussion. This will be the first meeting with NHDES since Robert Scott came on as Commissioner. EPA Region 1 does this regularly with our six state agencies.

- **Congressional Staff Briefing**

On June 20, EPA Region 1 will host 30 Congressional staffers for our annual congressional staff briefing. During the morning session congressional staff hear from EPA on topics that reach across New England including water infrastructure, superfund and brownfields, and lead in drinking water. In the afternoon breakout sessions by states dive into especially relevant issues.

Region 2Hot Topics:

- **Sustainable Management of Food:** Headquarters has requested Region 2's help with planning a potential high-level event in 9/19 with Administrator Wheeler around the topic of food waste to coincide with the Champions 12.3 event (9/23–24). Champions 12.3 is a coalition of executives from governments, businesses, international organizations, research institutions, farmer groups, and civil society dedicated to inspiring ambition, mobilizing action, and accelerating progress toward achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal Target 12.3 by 2030.
- **Limetree Terminals Maintenance Permit, USVI:** While Limetree obtained a permit for construction of a single-point mooring facility at their facilities, they have found repairs to the larger, existing development are necessary. Some of the repairs requiring Corps authorization are considered minor and may be handled through Nationwide Permit 3 (repairs to existing facilities), others, such as the replacement of marine platforms, will require individual permits. Limetree has committed to the development of a long-term monitoring plan and will request a 5-year maintenance permit for the project, plus coral relocation and mitigation strategies. A permit application is forthcoming. Negotiations continue on the Consent Decree.
- **Region 2 Joins Region 5 in Headlining EJCRC Meeting in Washington:** On 6/12, RA Lopez, who is championing collaboration, joined colleagues from Region 2 and Region 5 and Headquarters in a meeting of the Environmental Justice Community Revitalization Council (EJCRC) in Washington, D.C. This meeting featured a discussion of Region 2's and Region 5's best management practices for Community-Driven Solutions including a presentation by the NJDEP on their Community Collaborative Initiative model which is used in Camden, Trenton, Perth Amboy, and Bayonne. A national webinar will be held on 6/18 featuring the New Jersey Community Collaborative Initiative's founding work in Camden as part of a series of Environmental Justice webinars focused on Cooperative Federalism.
- **WaterSense Program Expands in Mid-Hudson Region:** Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation (Central Hudson) joined the WaterSense Program as a Promotional Partner on 5/30. Ranking as one of the top utilities in the nation, Central Hudson is a champion of renewable energy. The utility is a leader in support of solar energy and offers rebates to incentivize customers and businesses to use energy and water more efficiently.
- **Dewey Loeffel Landfill Superfund Site, Town of Nassau, NY:** Discovery of deeper than expected PCB contamination in the T11A stream sediment in the first 300 feet of excavation has resulted in significant delays to the schedule. For now, GE still wants to attempt to meet the 1 ppm clean-up goal but it is possible some capping may be required. As a result, there has been no part of the T11A stream excavation completed to date and all the first 300 feet must be excavated deeper than designed.
- **St. Gobain-McCaffrey Street Superfund Site, Hoosick Falls, NY:** Mayor Allen contacted ORD and asked if they could call him to discuss in more detail the methods employed for the

stack testing by ORD. ORD will be setting up a call with Mayor Allen next week. A rep from NYDEC air programs will also be on the call. Region 2 plans to have a rep on the call as well.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **RA Lopez to Visit Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Island**

RA Lopez will travel to Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands on Tuesday, 6/18 to Sunday 6/23. Items of special note in a packed schedule are meetings with Governor Bryan of the USVI and newly-appointed DPNR Commissioner J.P. Oriol.

- **RA Lopez Considering “45 Action Items” for Region 2’s Indian Nation Engagement**

The summary of the “45 Action Items” emanating from Region 2’s Indian Nation Summit has been shared and discussed with RA Lopez. Per Region 2’s bowling chart measures, the region has 60 days from the date the action items were identified (5/21) to complete the actions, unless an alternative date is agreed upon in consultation with the Nations.

Region 3

Hot Topics

- **Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants Announcement, Scranton, PA**

On June 5, 2019, Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio visited Scranton, PA to present a \$600,000 Assessment Coalition grant to the Redevelopment Authority of Lackawanna County to conduct environmental site assessments, complete site cleanup plans, identify new sites to inventory, and conduct community outreach activities in former industrial and manufacturing hubs of the Scranton area. He also announced a \$500,000 cleanup grant to the Earth Conservancy for the cleanup of mine-scarred land in Luzerne County. With the new grant, Earth Conservancy has received 19 grants and close to \$4 million in Brownfields funding. The Mayor of Scranton, Lackawanna County Commissioners, elected officials, community groups, and others were in attendance. The event was held adjacent to the grounds of the former RSM site, which was assessed in a previous Brownfields grant, and has known contamination on the property. The site is expected to be transformed into a pocket park in the middle of downtown, providing non-economic benefits to the surrounding community.

- **Department of Justice Files Complaint and Lodges Consent Decree for a CERCLA Cost Recovery Action in Connection w/ the Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site – Operable Unit 1.**

On June 5, 2019, the U.S. Department of Justice (“DOJ”) filed a civil action against the City of Philadelphia (“the City”), and the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority (“PRA”) for the recovery of response costs incurred and to be incurred at the Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site (“Site”) Operable Unit 1 (“OU1”). DOJ also filed a Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree which, once it is entered, requires Settling Defendants pay \$8.4 million to the United States in satisfaction of their liability for all past and future response costs incurred in connection with OU1. The Clearview Landfill operated from approximately the 1950s through mid-1970s. Wastes accepted at the landfill included municipal, demolition and hospital wastes. Waste disposal practices contaminated the soil, groundwater and fish tissue with hazardous chemicals. The \$8.4 million settlement includes past and future. The Notice of Lodging has been submitted for transmission to the Federal Register to commence a 30-day public comment period.

- **Maryland Coastal Bays Program Evaluation On-Site Visit Completed**

Region 3 completed an on-site visit to the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) on May 29-31, as part of EPA’s National Estuary Program (NEP) Program Evaluation. Every five years, each NEP must undergo a Program Evaluation led by EPA Headquarters to determine whether the NEP is making adequate progress in implementing its Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) and achieving programmatic and environmental results. The final portion of the Program Evaluation is a multi-day on-site visit by EPA’s Program Evaluation Review Team (regional representatives, headquarters program coordinator, an ex-officio director from a separate NEP) to meet with NEP. EPA’s Program Evaluation Review Team recommended a “pass” to EPA management, making the Maryland Coastal Bays NEP eligible for future CWA 320 funds as appropriated by Congress.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio has the following events and meetings scheduled:

June 18-19 -Regional Agriculture Networking Forum, Shenandoah Valley. Weyers Cave, VA.

Region 4

Hot Topics

- **Horn Lake (Horn Lake, MS)**

Key Message: On June 10th, Region 4 Administrator Walker participated on a conference call requested by Senator Wicker. The Senator expressed continued interest in gaining EPA's assistance in facilitating discussions between the City of Memphis and Horn Lake. The Senator also expressed concerns regarding the WIFIA Loan award to Memphis based on the inclusion of the Horn Lake population. Region 4 communicated to the Senator EPA's limited role in the long-term contractual discussions between both parties and our willingness to provide technical assistance to Horn Lake regarding paths forward for wastewater management. The Senator remains interested in working towards a viable resolution for Horn Lake.

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineer (USACE) Mobile Harbor**

Key Message: The Region received notice from USACE Mobile District to extend the comment period to July 18th for the Integrated General Reevaluation Report with Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Final GRR/FSEIS) for Mobile Harbor. USACE plans to host a webinar next week to go over their response to EPA's DSEIS technical comments and recommendations that were not addressed in the FSEIS. USACE indicated that 7 other agency comment letters were not addressed in the FSEIS.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Hurricane Preparedness Event**

On June 17th, Region 4 Administrator Walker will participate on a panel discussion at Senator Rick Scott's (R-FL) Hurricane Preparedness Event. The focus of the event is to bring federal partners, state and local officials together prior to this season's storms. Other panel members include SBA, HUD, FEMA, Coast Guard, DHS, and the Army Corps. The event will include breakout sessions targeted for mayors and local officials to engage and obtain details regarding future preparedness. Orlando, FL. Open Press.

- **2019 Opportunity Zone Summit**

On June 19th and 20th, Region 4 Administrator Walker and senior management will participate in discussions and tours at an opportunity zone event hosted by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The event incorporates several roundtable discussions regarding education, impacts, and funding opportunities. Scott Turner, Executive Director of the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, will also speak at the event. Morrow, GA. Open Press.

- **Lead Dust Rule Press Event**

On June 20th, Region 4 Administrator Walker will hold a press amplification event on the Lead Dust Rule announcement. The region anticipates participation from the Regional Administrator for HUD and the local housing authority, as well as GAEPD. Metro Atlanta, GA. Open Press.

- **Paducah Formal Dispute Resolution for the C-400 Removal Notification SEC level dispute – June 21, 2019**

- Paducah Formal Dispute Resolution for the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis SEC level dispute – June 21, 2019

Region 5

Hot Topics

- **Canada and the United States to Release Great Lakes Progress Report of the Parties This Week**

Key Message: This week Environment and Climate Change Minister Catherine McKenna and Administrator Wheeler plan to release the 2019 Progress Report of the Parties documenting progress made between 2017 and 2019 by both nations in meeting commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA).

The Progress Report of the Parties is the second of its kind. The triennial report was a new commitment under the updated 2012 GLWQA and reflects the governments' commitments to accountability, transparency and public engagement. The report will promote discussion on priorities for Great Lakes protection during the upcoming 2019 Great Lakes Public Forum in Milwaukee.

- **EPA to Issue Clean Air Act Title V Permit for Veolia's Hazardous Waste Incinerator in Sauget, Ill.**

Key Message: Region 5 is prepared to issue a final Title V permit that is identical to the draft permit that was released for public comment in July 2018 and is consistent with the October 2017 settlement agreement reached with Veolia resolving the appeal of the previous permit.

The final permit does not require Veolia to install continuous multi-metals emissions monitors, instead requires Veolia to install and operate mercury emissions controls on two incinerators that previously did not have mercury controls.

- **EPA and IDEM Proposed PCB Permit Renewal for East Chicago, Ind., Company**

Key Message: Next week, EPA and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management will jointly announce the proposed renewal for Safety-Kleen Systems Inc.'s permit to treat and store used oil containing polychlorinated biphenyls at the company's facility in East Chicago, Ind. A public meeting will be held on July 16 and the comment period will run through Aug. 31, 2019.

Safety-Kleen has had EPA approval and an IDEM permit since 1998 to store and treat PCBs in used oil. Safety-Kleen collects used oil from various facilities. Although the company does not pick up oil that is known to contain PCBs, sometimes PCBs are found in the collected oil. The proposed renewal would allow the company to continue to treat the contaminated oil.

The Safety-Kleen facility is near the Indiana Harbor confined disposal facility, which EPA and IDEM approved for the disposal of PCB-contaminated sediment last year. That approval was opposed by many local residents and elected officials.

- **Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission Approved Revisions to Pollution Control Standards**

Key Message: ORSANCO, after significant input from states and interested parties along the Ohio River, revised their pollution control standards for industrial and municipal wastewater discharges into the Ohio River.

The June 6 revision maintains the pollution control standards for the Ohio River while providing flexibility for the states to use these standards when adopting state-specific standards for the Ohio River. EPA will continue to work with ORSANCO and the states to ensure compliance with all applicable standards. ORSANCO, headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, is the water pollution control agency for the Ohio River representing Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **RA Stepp to Welcome Participants to the Great Lakes Public Forum on June 17 in Milwaukee, Wis.**

Key Message: The 3-day event brings together the United States and Canada to discuss the state of the lakes and progress made under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. RA Stepp will introduce a video greeting recorded by Administrator Wheeler.

- **Region 5 Tribal Operations Committee Meeting June 18-19**

Key Message: Region 5's Tribal Operations Committee (R5TOC) will meet on June 18-19, hosted by the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

The R5TOC meetings provide a regular opportunity for Region 5 senior leadership to meet with tribal leadership, and to discuss human health and environmental protection issues, concerns, and successes impacting Indian country. Agenda items for this R5TOC meeting include: implementing the federal action plan to reduce childhood lead exposure in Region 5 Indian country; advancing EPA/state/tribal partnerships; and emergency response preparedness.

- **RA Stepp to Speak at 50th Anniversary of the Cuyahoga River Fire Event in Cleveland**

Key Message: The June 22 event, hosted by the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, will be one of many throughout the weekend celebrating 50 years of progress within the Cuyahoga River.

In addition to the anniversary events, there will also be a groundbreaking event for the final leg of Towpath Trail. Once completed, Towpath Trail will be a 100-mile long towpath that spans from Lake Erie to New Philadelphia, Ohio.

- **OIG to Hold June 24 Listening Session in East Chicago, Ind., Regarding USS Lead Site**

Key Message: As part of their audit of the effectiveness of risk communication at OLEM sites, EPA's OIG will be holding listening sessions across the country to facilitate citizen feedback. The USS Lead site is one of the Region 5 Superfund sites on the Administrator's Emphasis List.

Region 5 is providing OIG stakeholder information and helping find a location for the meeting. The Region will also be providing OIG a tour of the site prior to the meeting.

Region 6
Hot Topics

- **Rainbow Valley Public Water System, Tecumseh, Oklahoma**
 Region 6 issued a 'boil water' Public Notice for failure to address significant deficiencies at the Rainbow Valley public drinking water system. Notification went to about 128 residents and property owners. The Rainbow Valley Public Water System has failed to correct significant sanitary deficiencies identified during sanitary surveys. ODEQ tried to work with the PWS to address these issues at the drinking water facility, but the deficiencies remained unaddressed. ODEQ referred this case to EPA.
- **Georgia Pacific Crossett, Arkansas**
 On June 13, 2019, EPA Region 6, DOJ, and ADEQ held a teleconference with Georgia-Pacific (GP) regarding the recently announced closure of a portion of GP's paper mill and consumer products facility located in Crossett, Arkansas. The discussion focused on GP's proposed amendments to the Consent Decree, SEP modifications, and timing for filing an amended Consent Decree.
- **Bird Creek Settlement, Osage County, Oklahoma**
 A settlement-in-principle has been reached with the Bird Creek Respondents, and Jireh has expressed that a settlement agreement needs to be signed by June 28, before their loan expires. EPA is routing the concurrence package which includes the settlement agreement, briefing memo, monitoring plan, statement of basis, public notice of the permit and the seven permits.
- **Mosaic Fertilizer LLC, St. James, Louisiana**
 On June 6, Mosaic responded to the Region's May 17, 2019, CWA 308 information request (308). The 308 imposes monitoring requirements should any emergency discharge of process wastewater occur. On June 10, Mosaic updated the government (EPA, LDEQ, DOJ) on its set of options for managing process waste water and eliminating 300 million gallons of process wastewater by September 30, 2019. Spray evaporation remains the primary means volumetrically, but options also include trucking/barging process wastewater to Faustina which is problematic for LDEQ.
- **Blue Water Valley Downstream Alliance, San Mateo Creek Basin, New Mexico**
 On June 18, EPA plans to meet with representatives of the Blue Water Valley Downstream Alliance (BVDA) and Multi-cultural Alliance for a Safe Environment in Albuquerque, NM. Discussions will center around EPA's 2018 Phase 2 Ground Water Report for the San Mateo Creek Basin as it relates to the Homestake Superfund Site ground water cleanup. Attending or participating via webinar will be, BVDA technical consultants, representatives of Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy, the New Mexico Environment Department, and representatives from Senators Udall and Heinrich offices. EPA will also provide an update of Homestake's ongoing 2019 Supplemental Background Study to evaluate the source of high uranium in ground water upgradient of the Superfund site.
- **Texas Title V Petition Resolution Letter, Texas**
 By June 28, EPA anticipates a response to TCEQ's June 2018 letter and subsequent discussions on how to resolve long-term EPA objections to Texas Title V air permits. The current draft outlines where EPA agrees or proposes a different resolution of an issue.

- **Denka Elastomers, LaPlace, Louisiana**

Region 6 received DPE's alternative proposal to EPA's plans for conducting on-site process area monitoring at their facility. EPA's technical team is completing their evaluation and preparing a counter-proposal to present to the company this week. ORD met with Denka officials on June 12 to discuss the company's PBPK model submission supporting their Request for Correction for chloroprene.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **DFW Redesignation/Maintenance Plans for the 1-hour and 1997 8-hour Ozone Standards, Texas**

By June 14, decision by EPA on the proposed approval of Texas SIP revisions for redesignation of the DFW area under the old 1-hour and 1997 8-hour ozone air quality standards.

- **New Mexico and Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Municipal Solid Waste Landfills Emission 111(d) Plans, New Mexico**

By June 17, EPA anticipates approving a proposal of revisions to the section 111(d) Plan for State of New Mexico, and Albuquerque-Bernalillo County for their existing Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfills. EPA is proposing to approve these two plans in one action.

- **Oklahoma Annual Update, Oklahoma**

By June 18, Region 6 anticipates final approval of miscellaneous revisions to the Oklahoma SIP regulations. The Region received adverse comments on the proposal and is working through the responses with OGC.

- **Pueblo of Laguna TAS Application, Laguna, New Mexico**

By June 20, decision by EPA on completeness determination of the Pueblo of Laguna's TAS application for CAA authority under Sections 107(d)(3) and 126, which would allow the Pueblo to be notified of CAA permit and permit modification applications. The Pueblo previously received approval for CAA Sections 105 & 505(a)(2).

- **Oklahoma Regional Haze 5-yr Progress Report, Oklahoma**

By June 25, EPA anticipates taking final action on the Oklahoma Regional Haze 5-yr Progress Report SIP. ODEQ submitted the SIP revision in September 2016 to address the requirement for a periodic report describing progress towards reasonable progress goals and a determination of the adequacy of the state's Regional Haze SIP. We received one comment from TCEQ on issues outside of the scope of this action. Final action will remove this SIP from the EPA Region 6 SIP backlog.

- **Tri-State Mining District – Regions 6 and 7 Administrator's Meeting**

On June 27-28, 2019, the Regional Administrators for Regions 6 and 7 plan to tour the Tri-State Mining District and discuss ongoing coordination between regions related to investigation and cleanup of the area. During this visit, the Regional Administrators will meet with members of the Quapaw Nation, the States of Oklahoma and Kansas, and the community.

- **Houston/Galveston/Brazoria 2008 Ozone Attainment, Texas**

By June 28, decision by HQ to finalize action to reclassify the HGB area from moderate to serious under the 2008 ozone NAAQS. TCEQ provided comments and asked for additional time to submit the serious area SIP revision and asked that EPA delay finalization of the bump up to allow consideration of potential exceptional events during 2018, which if approved, the area would be meeting the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

- **DFW 2008 Ozone Attainment Demonstration Plan, Texas**

By June 28, decision by HQ to finalize action to bump up the DFW area from moderate to serious for the 2008 Ozone NAAQS. TCEQ provided both oral and written comments requesting that EPA delay the required serious SIP revision submission date from 12 months to 18 months.

- June 18 LDEQ/EPA Executive Retreat, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- June 19 TEJAS Meeting, Houston, Texas
 - Houston Environmental Law Section, Houston, Texas
- June 25 ODEQ/EPA Executive Retreat, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- June 27 Tar Creek Superfund Visit , Miami, Oklahoma

Region 7

Hot Topics

- **U.S. Technology Superfund Cleanup Action, Berger, Missouri**

Key Message: Cleanup of over 6,000 tons of toxic “spent blasting media” was completed at this Superfund site during the week of June 11-15, 2019. The waste material had been stored in an unsecured building and the toxic spent blast media presented significant threats to human health and the environment. The removal action cost more than \$2 million and spanned approximately four months.

- **West Lake Landfill Outreach Activities**

Key Message: The EPA is meeting with citizens, St. Louis Airport personnel, MDNR staff, and PRPs concerning upcoming site activities and documents.

- On June 10, 2019, the EPA West Lake Landfill Team met with the Citizens Advisory Group Technical sub-committee, or TCAG, in St. Louis, MO. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources was also represented at the meeting. The EPA briefed the TCAG on upcoming activities for the OU-3 groundwater Remedial Investigation, the OU-1 Remedial Design, or RD, process, and the OU-2 RD.
- On June 11, 2019, the EPA met with St. Louis Lambert Airport personnel to discuss coordination on wildlife mitigation concerns during the RD/RA process for OU-1
- On Thursday June 13, 2019, the EPA and MDNR is meeting with the PRPs and their consultants to discuss the first four OU-1 RD documents scheduled to be submitted on July 5 and August 5, 2019. The PRPs will provide a status update on the Emergency Management Plan, the Site-wide Management Plan, the Remedial Design Workplan, and the Design Criteria Report, or DCR. The majority of the meeting will be focused on discussing details in the DCR.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- On June 20, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will be meeting with the Just Moms Group in St Louis, MO regarding the status of West Lake.
- On June 21, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will be participating in a press event with EPA and HUD at the local health department in St Joseph, MO to discuss the Lead Dust Rule.
- On June 22 and 23, EPA staff will be displaying and demonstrating two LSASD/FSB design/build innovative technologies at the 2019 KC Makers Faire. The first is the Air Mapper Device which is used during the KC-TRAQS study to allow citizen scientists to collect data about air quality in their neighborhoods and immediate surroundings. The second is STEPH, a water column vertical profiler device to be deployed at Milford Reservoir to study vertical water column impacts to formation of harmful algal blooms.

Region 8

Hot Topics

- **Clean Water Action Weighs in on Denver Water's Optimal Corrosion Control Variance Request**

Clean Water Action (CWA) is supportive of EPA's consideration of the variance request for the Denver Water scenario given local concerns about downstream phosphorus impacts. They are also concerned about Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) variances becoming commonplace. CWA wants to better understand how Denver Water will design their lead filter program as that's an important aspect for public health protection; they aren't sure it's possible to prove equivalent public health protection through the variance approach. They provided several recommendations for outreach including a separate meeting between OGWDW, Region 8, and key SDWA environmental stakeholders to discuss the variance request in more detail. Suggested invitees include CWA, Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Fund, and the Children's Health Environmental Network. Region 8 will coordinate with OGWDW.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **EPA Region 8 in coordination with South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (SD DENR) and Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico) will conduct a tour of the Gilt Edge Mine Site (Site) for interested South Dakota elected officials/aids on June 17 and 18, 2019.**
 - The 360-acre Site is located approximately 6.5 miles east of Lead, South Dakota.
 - The EPA included the Site on the National Priorities List in 2000, and estimates expending over \$100 million in future response costs.
 - In 2018, the EPA, SD DENR and Agnico entered an administrative order on consent whereby Agnico began to perform environmental studies and core drilling as a CERCLA bona fide prospective purchaser.
 - Agnico has reached out to many South Dakota elected officials to inform them about its work at the Site. These interactions generated requests for a Site tour.
 - Tour participants include aids of federal senators and congressman, state senators and representatives, and local county and city officials.

Region 9
Hot Topics

- **Drinking water**

Enforcement Director Amy Miller will confer with the Bureau of Indian Affairs director for California, Amy Dutschke, regarding ongoing noncompliance at a small tribal drinking water system. While we have worked with the tribe in recent years, we may need to take more formal action, thus we are conferring with OECA colleagues.

Next week, Region 9 will host the national drinking water infrastructure needs assessment meeting with OW, all regions, state and tribal representatives.

- **Emergency preparedness**

We will test our preparedness for a major oil spill in exercises with the U. S. Coast Guard, British Petroleum and the State of California.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Office of Mission Support**

Next week we'll host our OMS colleagues for their annual IT portfolio review and other OMS-related meetings. We look forward to welcoming Donna Vizian, Wes Carpenter, Vaughn Noga, David Zeckman and other OMS representatives.

- **National Estuary Program**

With OW, we'll conduct the five-year evaluation of the Santa Monica national estuary program and how EPA funds have supported implementation of its Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

- Regional Administrator Mike Stoker will address the annual Arizona Rock Products meeting in Laguna Beach, CA.

- **Compliance Assistance**

We joined Customs and Border Protection at the annual Pharmaceutical, Health and Chemical Center Industry meeting, an important forum for discussions with chemical manufacturers and importers, to discuss compliance with FIFRA and TSCA import requirements.

- Enforcement Director Amy Miller will meet with California Regional Water Board executive officers to discuss Clean Water Act compliance assistance.

Region 10

Hot Topics

- **Permitting of the Hanford Test Bed Initiative Unexpectedly Suspended**

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of River Protection unexpectedly withdrew its permit application for a hazardous waste Research, Design and Development permit that it previously submitted to the Washington State Department of Ecology for the Hanford tank waste Test Bed Initiative (TBI). The TBI is a demonstration project focusing on retrieval, processing and disposal of certain tank wastes in advance of the start of Hanford's Waste Treatment Plant. Region 10 had been involved in the hazardous waste Land Disposal Restriction issues, as well as permitting and TSCA approval work at PermaFix Northwest, one of the candidate facilities for stabilizing TBI wastes prior to off-site commercial disposal.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Wallowa Lake Drum Removal Assessment (Joseph, OR)**

Region 10, at the request of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, deployed an OSC and START contractors to Wallowa Lake in eastern Oregon to assess and remove abandoned drums discovered last summer at the bottom of the lake. A community scuba dive group discovered approximately 25 55-gallon and 12 100-gallon drums. The drums have markings indicating they once held or currently hold a mixture of the herbicides 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T which, when combined, produce the herbicide known as Agent Orange. While the 55-gallon drums appear to be rusted out, several of the 100-gallon drums appear to be intact, and their contents are unknown. Initial water sampling has not detected 2,4-D in the drinking water sourced from the lake. EPA and ODEQ will assess the condition of the drums and prepare to remove them if necessary, in consultation with local, state and tribal authorities. The agencies are taking extra precautions to test the lake water and consider drum removal to ensure the lake remains clean for people, fish and wildlife.

- **Region 10 Acts on Idaho's Aquatic Life Water Quality Criteria for Selenium**

Region 10 expects to take CWA 303(c) action no later than the end of June on Idaho's aquatic life criteria for selenium. Idaho's water quality submittal includes adoption of the nationally recommended criterion for a large portion of the state and five site-specific criteria, including SSC proposals from NuWest Industries and J.R. Simplot Company, and an SSC for waters outside of the white sturgeon's historical range. EPA plans to approve the majority of the submittal and disapprove a component of one SSC for which lacked sufficient data for EPA's approval. Simplot acknowledged that additional field studies and monitoring data are need for this element of the SSC.

- **Senior EPA Leadership Conduct Listening Sessions in Bristol Bay, Alaska**

During the week of June 10th, General Counsel Matt Leopold along with Lee Forsgren from the Office of Water and Regional Administrator Chris Hladick, traveled to Alaska to meet with state and federal agencies as well as a range of stakeholders, tribal organizations and communities to hear perspectives on the proposed Pebble Mine and to see the area first hand.

- **Region 10 and Washington Department of Ecology Finalize Performance Partnership Agreement**

On June 20th, Region 10 Administrator Chris Hladick and Washington Department of Ecology Director, Maia Bellon, will sign the Washington Performance Partnership Agreement for Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021. The PPA documents commitments and priorities between Ecology and Region 10 and describes many activities of the water, waste and air programs. The agreement establishes and implements a joint work plan for administering about ~\$20 million in federal grant dollars for air quality, water quality, and hazardous waste management.

- **Lower Duwamish Public Meeting and Boeing Plant 2 Uplands Cleanup Plan**

On June 18th, Region 10 will host a Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site open house to update the community on cleanup progress including a public comment period for a RCRA corrective action plan at the Boeing Plant 2 facility adjacent to the waterway. Region 10 is proposing final cleanup levels for soils and groundwater at the facility, as well as proposed remedies for nine upland areas. Boeing has already completed extensive in-river sediment cleanup and habitat restoration as well.

- **Regional Tribal Operations Committee meeting in Fort Hall, Idaho**

The Region 10 and 8 RTOCs will hold a joint meeting from June 18-20 at the Fort Hall reservation in SE Idaho. Agenda topics will include highlights of Region 10 and 8 tribal priorities, including transboundary issues, superfund sites, infrastructure projects, food sovereignty and subsistence, and issues of national importance such as WOTUS, and the revision of the IGAP guidance.

Office of Air and Radiation

Hot Topics

• **Packages for Signature:**

- Revision to Appendix P to 40 CFR Part 51, Concerning Minimum Emission Reporting Requirements in SIPs
- Stationary CI Engine NSPS Amendments (Direct Final and Proposal)
- Municipal Solid Waste Landfills (Proposed Rule)

• **Packages at OMB for Review:**

- ACE (Final Rule)
- Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/2019)
- Vehicle Test Procedure Adjustments for Tier 3 Test Fuel (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/2019)
- Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NSR): Project Emissions Accounting (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 03/21/2019)
- 2020 Ozone Depleting Substances Phaseout Rule (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 03/29/2019)
- Amendments Related to Marine Diesel Engine Emission Standards (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 04/10/2019)
- RFS: Standards for 2020 and Biomass-Based Diesel Volume for 2021, Response to the Remand of the 2016 Standards, and Other Changes (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/06/2019)
- Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Modification of Statutory Volume Targets / RFS Reset (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/20/2019)
- Integrated Iron and Steel RTR (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/30/2019)
- Exceptional Events Guidance: Prescribed Fire on Wildland that May Influence Ozone and Particulate Matter Concentrations (Final Guidance; RECEIVED DATE: 05/20/2019)
- Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Sources; Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in Utah (Region 8 Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/23/2019)
- Guidance on Regional Haze State Implementation Plans for the Second Implementation Period (Final Guidance; RECEIVED DATE: 6/10/2019)
- Oil & Natural Gas Sector Emission Standards for new Reconstructed & Modified Sources Review (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 6/10/2019)

• **Packages Heading to OMB Soon**

- Strat Ozone - Section 608 Refrigerant Management – Revisions (Final Rule)
- MSW Landfills Emission Guidelines Subpart Ba Requirements (Final Rule)
- Ethylene Production RTR (subparts XX & YY) (Proposed Rule)
- MATS Coal Refuse-Fired Units Review (Final Rule)
- Organic Liquids Distribution (OLD) RTR (Proposed Rule)
- MON RTR (Proposed Rule)

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- June 24/25: Bill will be travelling to Quebec City to be a keynote speaker at the Air and Waste Management Annual Conference

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Hot Topics

- **TSCA at 3**

The week of June 17 marks the third anniversary of the Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). OCSPP will note accomplishments via social media; will highlight the Administrator's signing of the Dust Lead Hazard Standard rule (DLHS)(below) at an event with HUD Secretary Carson amplified by Regional events and press releases; will release a proposal on certain persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic (PBT) chemicals (below); and will brief Congressional staff.

- **Final DLHS Rule**

On June 20, OCSPP expects to finalize a dust-lead hazards rule, updating hazard standards for lead-contaminated dust in pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities, used to identify dust-lead hazards when risk assessments are performed, and following through on commitments in the Federal Lead Action Plan.

- **Proposed Rule on Certain PBT Chemicals**

The 2016 TSCA amendments direct EPA to take expedited regulatory action without a risk evaluation for PBT chemicals in the 2014 TSCA Work Plan. The week of June 17, OCSPP expects to propose a rule addressing exposures to five of those chemicals.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel (FIFRA SAP) Meeting**

The SAP met June 11-14 to review EPA's "Proposed Guidelines for Efficacy Testing of Topically Applied Pesticides Used Against Certain Ectoparasitic Pests on Pets."

- **Meeting with German Officials**

On June 12 AA Dunn and OSCP Director Hayley Hughes met with Gertrud Sahler, Germany's Federal Ministry of the Environment's Director-General for Environment and Health, and Ambassador Marcia Bernicat, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, to discuss negotiations on the future direction of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, a voluntary global policy framework on sound chemical management.

- **National Pollinator Week, June 17-23**

OPP will participate in USDA's Pollinator Festival on the National Mall June 21 and will post a blog and other social media.

- **TSCA Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC)**

The SACC will meet June 18-21 to review EPA's draft risk evaluation for Colour Index (C. I.) Pigment Violet 29 (PV29).

- **Horticultural Webinar**

June 24, OPP's Christine Olinger will overview the human health risk assessment supporting the registration review of glyphosate on a webinar for the Horticultural Research Institute and AmericanHort, which represents diverse horticulture stakeholders.

- **Biopesticides Meeting**

On June 24 OPP's Shannon Borges will present at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Expert Group on Biopesticides meeting in Paris on the U.S. perspective on the use of bioinformatics in microbial pesticide regulation

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Hot Topics

- OCFO is working with OW and OLEM to prepare the enacted \$414 million EPA disaster supplemental operating plan due to Congress on July 21, which includes a five-day OMB review period.
- OCFO continues to work with OCIR, OGC and the programs to prepare responses to the SAC, HAC, and HEC QFRs.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- On June 21, OCFO is briefing the Acting Deputy Administrator/Chief of Operations for a decision on the approach for review of Annual Performance Goals as part of development of FY 2021 Annual Performance Plan/OMB Submission. OCFO typically sends agency guidance in mid-June.
- OCFO continued preparations for a half-day Senior Leadership Council in-person/VTC for the afternoon of July 17 to include agency priorities; budget context; multi-year planning; and other long-term planning topics.

Other

- This past Monday (June 10), OCFO posted OECA's FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances and response to comments on the [HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/national-program-guidances>"], completing issuance of the FY 2020-2021 NPGs along with OW, OLEM, OCSPP, OITA, and OCIR.
- OCFO has reminded the GAO Liaisons for each agency office that responses to GAO's Biannual Open Recommendations Update are due Friday (June 14).
- On June 18, the CFO is convening a dry-run session for agency participants to prepare for June 25 OMB/EPA Strategic Review meeting.

Office of the Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

Hot Topics

- **June 19-** Senate Environment and Public Work Committee will hold a hearing on Committee Business Meeting on PFAS Legislation (No EPA Witness)
- **June 20-** House Energy and Commerce Committee is planning to hold a hearing on the proposed SAFE Vehicles rule. EPA's Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, Bill Wehrum, is preparing to testify, alongside Heidi King, the Deputy Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Not yet publicly posted.
- **June 25-** House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment will hold a hearing on "Protecting and Restoring America's Iconic Waters."

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **June 21** – House and Senate briefings on TSCA Implementation w/OCSP
- **June 28-July 1-**The US Conference of Mayors-87th Annual Meeting will convene in Honolulu, HI.

Office of Enforcement and Compliance AssuranceHot Topics:

- **National Compliance Initiatives (NCIs) for FY 2020-2023**

On June 7, 2019, OECA selected EPA's NCIs for the next cycle of FY 2020-2023. The selected NCIs are: 1) Creating Cleaner Air for Communities by Reducing Excess Emissions of Harmful Pollutants from Stationary Source; 2) Reducing Hazardous Air Emissions from Hazardous Waste Facilities; 3) Stopping Aftermarket Defeat Devices for Vehicles and Engines; 4) Reducing Significant Noncompliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits; 5) Reducing Noncompliance with Drinking Water Standards at Community Water Systems; and 6) Reducing Risks of Accidental Releases at Industrial and Chemical Facilities.

- **No Action Assurance (NAA) for Asbestos NESHAP after Record Flooding in Arkansas**

On June 11, 2019, in response to a request from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, OECA issued a no action assurance for a limited provision of the asbestos NESHAP requirements on notifications. The NAA applies to renovations or demolitions of structures damaged by the recent flooding in Arkansas counties covered under an emergency declaration or major disaster declaration issued by the President.

- **Fuel Waiver Concerning Low Volatility Gasoline in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania**

On June 12, 2019, in response to a request from Allegheny County, EPA issued a second emergency fuel waiver to prevent the disruption of an adequate supply of gasoline after determining that an extreme and unusual fuel supply circumstance exists in Allegheny County as a result of a failure in the Buckeye Laurel Pipeline.

- **Supreme Court Grants Certiorari Petition Challenging Montana Supreme Court Decision that CERCLA's Pre-Enforcement Review Does Not Apply to State Restoration Claims**

On June 10, 2019, the U.S. Supreme Court granted Atlantic Richfield Company's (ARCO's) petition for certiorari in a case involving the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site in Montana. ARCO is seeking reversal of a 2017 Montana Supreme Court decision that: 1) state law restoration damages sought by ninety-nine landowners against ARCO for the Site were not barred or preempted by CERCLA; and 2) the landowners are not potentially responsible parties required to coordinate their cleanup plans with EPA. The U.S. Solicitor General filed a brief on April 30, 2019, with the Court recommending ARCO's petition be denied.

- **California Trucking Company Sentenced for Illegally Transporting Hazardous Materials**

On June 11, 2019, Wiley Sanders Truck Lines, Inc was sentenced for illegally transporting more than 64 tons of hazardous, lead-contaminated plastic battery chips from the now-closed Exide Technologies battery recycling facility in Vernon, California to a company in Bakersfield, California. Sanders was ordered to pay a \$1.5 million fine – the statutory maximum – and a \$1.5 million community service payment to the Exide Residential Assistance Fund established by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to support residents affected by lead contamination near the facility. Wiley Sanders Truck Lines was also ordered to serve probation for three years. United States District Judge Percy Anderson imposed the sentence, describing the company's conduct as "an environmental disaster for Vernon and the surrounding area

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- Nothing to report this week.

Office of General Counsel
Hot Topics

- ***Northwest Environmental Advocates v. EPA*, No. 12 -01751(D. Or. filed June 11, 2019)**
New Decision: In this litigation concerning the State of Oregon's temperature Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for 14 basins and sub-basins, the court accepted a schedule from EPA and Oregon to replace – on a rolling basis – those TMDLs between 2023-2027. Plaintiff had asked that the work be completed three years earlier, by 2024. (In an earlier decision, the court had found EPA's approval of the TMDLs unlawful because it was based on a vacated water quality standard.) The court also accepted EPA's request not to vacate the TMDLs before replacement. The court did, however, require EPA and Oregon to prioritize issuance of TMDLs for basins and sub-basins with greater numbers of NPDES permits. The court also ordered the parties to, among other things, provide regular status reports.

- ***Washington v. EPA*, No. 19-00884 (W.D. Wash. filed June 6, 2019)**
New Litigation: The State of Washington challenged EPA's May 10, 2019 approval of Washington's water quality standards (WQS). The complaint alleges that EPA lacked inherent authority to revise the State's existing WQS, asserting that the CWA prescribes only two avenues by which EPA may revise a state's existing WQS: (1) by waiting for a state to submit new or revised WQS and then disapproving those standards pursuant to CWA 303(c)(3) and 303(c)(4)(A); or (2) by making an Administrator's determination, pursuant to CWA(c)(4)(B), that new or revised WQS are necessary to meet the requirements of the Act, and if such a determination is made, EPA may only promulgate standards that are more stringent than a state's existing standards. Washington requests declaratory and injunctive relief: (1) a declaration asserting that EPA's action was arbitrary and capricious, not in accordance with law, and in excess of statutory authority because EPA failed to either comply with 303(c)(4)(A) or make a necessity determination pursuant to 303(c)(4)(B) prior to approving Washington's WQS; (2) a declaration that EPA does not have inherent authority to revise Washington's existing criteria without following the timelines and procedures in 303(c)(3) and (4); and (3) an injunction prohibiting EPA from revising Washington's existing human health criteria unless Washington submits new or revised WQS that fail to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act or until EPA makes a necessity determination.

- **New NOI**
 On June 4, 2019, the Center for Biological Diversity submitted a notice of intent to sue (NOI) under the Clean Air Act. The NOI alleges that EPA failed to fulfill its mandatory duty to take final action in a timely manner on a group of five SIP revisions submitted for the 2008 ozone NAAQS for the Ventura County serious nonattainment area in California. The SIP elements include contingency measures for VOC & NOx, emission inventory, emission statement, attainment demo, and reasonable further progress for VOC & NOx.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- Nothing to report this week.

Office of International and Tribal Affairs

Hot Topics

- **G20 Preparatory Meeting**

EPA is leading the US delegation, which includes representatives from NSC and State, to the third preparatory meeting to the G20 Environment Ministers Meeting in Japan. The US team is negotiating final outcome documents relating to resource litter and marine litter as well as climate adaptation and resilience which will be adopted at the Environment Ministerial Meeting. The difficult issues during the negotiation relate to references to single use plastic, long term vision on marine plastics, and Paris Agreement.

- **SelectUSA Investment Summit**

EPA participated in the annual SelectUSA Investment Summit held this week in DC. SelectUSA is a branch of the International Trade Administration within the Department of Commerce that specializes in promoting foreign direct investment in the US. The event was widely attended by State economic development agencies, federal agencies, and potential investors from overseas. EPA fielded questions about the Agency's mission and informed participants of programs designed to assist them in conforming to US environmental regulations.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **G20 Environmental Ministerial Meeting**

The Administrator will participate in the first G20 Environment Ministerial Meeting [[HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://2"](#)] in Karuizawa, Japan, which will also include a Joint Energy and Environment Ministerial Meeting.

- **Commission for Environmental Cooperation Meeting**

The Administrator will participate in the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council Session with Ministers from Canada and Mexico [[HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://4"](#)] in Mexico City, Mexico.

Office of the Land and Emergency Management
Hot Topics

- **Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)**
 - Interagency comments have been received on the CCR Phase 2 proposed rule package.
 - Georgia's CCR permit program is undergoing review.
- **Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP)**

OLEM is following up on input from the briefing with the Administrator.
- **Ongoing major Superfund NPL sites**

We are working with Region 1 on Centredale, Region 2 on Matteo, Region 4 on Oak Ridge, and Region 10 on Portland Harbor and Hanford.
- **CERCLA 108(b) Financial Assurance (next three sectors)**

We anticipate receiving OMB's comments soon on the electric power industries NPRM. This rule has a court-deadline for signature of July 2, 2019.
- **PFAS.**
 - PFOA and PFOS contaminated groundwater guidance. The public comment period concluded on June 10, 2019, and we are reviewing the comments received.
 - Working on inclusion as "hazardous substances" under CERCLA.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Supplemental Funding**

Existing RLF grantees that have been selected to receive supplemental funding are on track to be announced in a press release next week.
- **Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT)**

The deadline for the submission of proposals for FY20 was June 10, 2019.
- **Exemption for Air Releases from Animal Waste at Farms from EPCRA Final Rule**

The rule was published in the FR on June 13, and is effective July 15, 2019.
- **Monthly Business Review**

OLEM's monthly business review meeting is scheduled for June 20.

Office of Mission Support

Hot Topics

- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Green Intern Program**

The Green Intern Program announcements will be posted on USAJOBS and LinkedIn for 5 business days for headquarters (June 14-20, 2019) and there will be a 250-applicant cut-off for the regions. The positions will be posted at the GS-7 grade level with full promotion level to the GS-12. The announcements will include one for each region and one for headquarters. The certificates will be issued to the respective locations where the interviews will be conducted. Regions will conduct their interviews. The First Line Advisory Group (FLAG) will solicit volunteers for headquarters interview panelists and will develop interview questions. OMS is coordinating with OPA on the Administrator's press release, social media posts, brochure, and EPA's listserv. The first class of interns will join EPA in September 2019.

- **EPA Promotes Electronic Reporting at Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Meeting**

The Office of Mission Support, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance and the Office of Land and Emergency Management will give a presentation during the [HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/e-manifest"] FACA meeting to solicit feedback on how to increase the adoption rate of electronic reporting to promote cost savings and reduce administrative burden. EPA will convene the e-Manifest Advisory Board from June 18-20, 2019. The presentation will inform industry and state co-regulators of the current eManifest process and options available under the [HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/cromerr"].

- **New Grants Management Application (COMPLY)**

On June 7, 2019, OGD announced the release of EPA's new SharePoint application COMPLY. COMPLY will replace the existing Grantee Compliance & Recipient Activities Database and will serve as the central repository for EPA grantee compliance-related activities. COMPLY will allow the grants community to manage grant funds and facilitate the collaboration between grants and program offices, and OGD's Compliance Team. COMPLY is scheduled to be released on July 1, 2019. More information can be found on the [HYPERLINK "https://usepa.sharepoint.com/sites/oarm_Work/comply_app_reference/SitePages/Home.aspx"] Registration for training classes will occur in late June and early July 2019.

- **Employee Viewpoint Survey**

As of June 13, 2019, the governmentwide EVS response rate is 27.4%. EPA has attained an overall 39% response rate to date with Region 6 leading the pack at 65.8%. The EVS will be available for employees to complete through June 27, 2019.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Regional Meeting Next Week of National Program Reviews and Town Halls**

The Office of Mission Support senior leadership will meet with Regions 8, 9, and 10 next week for their program reviews, Customer Experience Town Halls, and OMS relevant topics. This is part of a national campaign to engage every region and program office to identify potential

efficiencies, opportunities for enhancements, savings and areas for collaboration across the spectrum of OMS services.

Office of Policy

Hot Topics

Active Interagency Reviews from OMB	
Subject	OMB Due Date
SBA NPRM: Consolidation of Mentor Protégé Programs and Other Government Contracting Amendments	06/13/2019
HHS/CDC Notice (Pass-back): Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention: Blood Lead Reference Value Update	06/14/2019
FAR NPRM: Federal Acquisition Regulation: Applicability of Small Business Regulations outside the United States, FAR Case 2016-002	06/18/2019
ODNI SEAD: Security Executive Agency Directive 8 -- Temporary Eligibility	06/24/2019
FAR FRM: Federal Acquisition Regulation: Reporting of Nonconforming Items to the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (FAR Case 2013-002)	06/24/2019
DOI/BOEM FRM: Air Quality Control, Reporting, and Compliance	06/26/2019
DoD/ACE NPRM (Pass-back): Natural Disaster Procedures: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Activities of the Corps of Engineers	N/A

Documents Sent to OFR from June 7-12, 2019		
FRL #	Title	Date Sent to FR
9993-15-OCSPP	24-Epibrassinolide; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance	06-12-2019
9994-71-OCSPP	Pesticide Emergency Exemptions; Agency Decisions and State and Federal Agency Crisis Declarations	06-12-2019
9994-90-OCSPP	Bacillus Amyloliquefaciens Subspecies Plantarum Strain FZB42; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance	06-12-2019
9995-20-Region 10	Reissuance of NPDES General Permit for Offshore Seafood Processors in Alaska (AKG524000)	06-12-2019
9995-25-Region 9	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National	06-12-2019

	Priorities List: Deletion of the MGM Brakes Superfund Site	
9994-52-OCSP	Ortho-Phthalaldehyde; Receipt of Application for Emergency Exemption; Solicitation of Public Comment	06-10-2019
9994-68-OW	National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Regulation of Perchlorate	06-10-2019
9994-78-Region 7	Air Plan Approval; Missouri; Revision to Sulfur Dioxide Control Requirements for Lake Road Generating Facility	06-10-2019
9995-04-OAR	Request for Nominations: Scientific Peer Reviewers; Potential Approaches for Characterizing the Estimated Benefits of Reducing PM2.5 at Low Concentrations	06-10-2019
9995-11-Region 9	Determination of Attainment by the Attainment Date for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Phoenix-Mesa, Arizona	06-10-2019
9995-03-OLEM	Amendment to Emergency Release Notification Regulations on Reporting Exemption for Air Emissions from Animal Waste at Farms; Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act	06-07-2019
9995-15-OA	Request for Nominations of Candidates for EPA's Science Advisory Board Economic Guidelines Review Panel	06-07-2019
9995-13-Region 5	Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Sulfur Dioxide	06-07-2019

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Local Foods, Local Places in Virginia**

From June 17-18, Office of Community Revitalization will be in Pulaski, Virginia to provide technical assistance as the city explores how various food access and healthy living programs can contribute to ongoing downtown revitalization.

- **State Environmental Justice Training**

On June 18, the Office of Environmental Justice will hold a national webinar on "Using Comprehensive Area-Wide Planning Approaches to Promote Equitable Development," with speakers from New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Groundworks USA, and the Ironbound Community Corporation of Newark.

Office of Research and Development

Hot Topics

Next week ORD will participate on a Federal Partner Panel (EPA, CDC and FDA) at the annual meeting of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) State Environmental Health Directors (SEHD) in Providence, RI. ORD's presentation will provide an update on our lead, PFAS, wildfire and HABs work, as well as our strategic planning efforts and collaborative projects with ASTHO and ECOS.

- **TSCA Support**

An evidence mapping pilot for prioritized chemicals is proceeding; this work will support development of scoping documents for the next 20 risk evaluations. ORD staff continue to support review and feedback on health hazard sections for the solvents and to provide quick turn-around reviews and modelling as needed. Agency review for 1,4-dioxane, hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) and 1-bromopropane are in progress.

- **Multi-Agency African Swine Fever Preparedness Collaboration Continues**

The collaboration continues between EPA, USDA, VA, NC and the pork industry to enhance preparedness for African Swine Fever Virus (ASFV), currently spreading through Europe and Asia. A series of tests are planned in July and August to further evaluate horizontal grinders (large industrial-scale wood chippers) for enhancing the process for performing on-farm composting of pigs that either die of the disease or are euthanized to prevent the spread of the disease. The industry estimates a need for up to 3 million pounds per day of disposal capacity to keep ahead of a potential outbreak.

- **New Hampshire DES PFAS Report: Air Emission Stack Samples**

On June 10, ORD delivered the sixth in a series of reports to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) in response to their request for technical support with the analyses of per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) in a variety of media. This report provides the results of analyses of air stack emission samples for PFAS. The samples were collected by NHDES at an industrial site.

- **ORD Demonstrates River Spill Model Software to American Water**

Last week ORD demonstrated the capabilities of our River Spill model software to New Jersey American Water personnel. [[HYPERLINK "https://amwater.com/"](https://amwater.com/)] is interested in applying the River Spill model to the Delaware River Basin where several of their drinking water intakes are located. The model provides utility operators with contaminant concentration and duration data such that the water intakes can be strategically closed while spills flow past the intake. The River Spill model was originally developed for the Ohio River. ORD has made recent upgrades to the Ohio River spill model which make it more adaptable to other river systems. ORD will supply the open source code for the spill model to NJ American so that they can adapt it to the Delaware River Basin.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **P3 Student Design Expo (June 16-18)**

ORD is convening the 15th Annual National Student Design Expo (NSDE) featuring [[HYPERLINK](#)

["https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/recipient.display/rfa_id/639/records_per_page/10"](https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/recipient.display/rfa_id/639/records_per_page/10)

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r_page/ALL"]. The Expo is co-located with the [HYPERLINK "https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/recipients.display/rfa_id/639/records_per_page/ALL"], and will gather 25 P3 university and college teams who will have the opportunity to showcase their innovative designs and solutions to real-world environmental and public health challenges to over 3,000 attendees. The Summit will connect student leaders with corporate and investment leadership. The research projects represent a wide range of innovative ideas: degradation and removal mechanisms for Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in water treatment, developing inexpensive technology to reduce indoor and outdoor air pollutants from woodstoves, building a model to quantify the extent of untreated raw sewage discharges from homes, and developing a sensor that can determine low levels of lead at terminal plumbing sources such as faucets and everything in between.

- **Scientific Integrity External Stakeholder Meeting**

On June 20, the Scientific Integrity Stakeholder Meeting will be held for both regulated industry and nongovernmental organization stakeholders. Invitations have been sent to an extensive list of potential participants.

Office of Water
Hot Topics

- **Unconventional Oil and Gas (UOG) Rule Notice of Final Decision**

As early as this week, OW expects to sign a Federal Register Notice announcing the decision to not revise the 2016 Unconventional Oil and Gas Extraction (UOG) effluent guidelines. This notice provides new data and analyses in response to the remand in *Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil Coalition v. EPA*, No. 16-4064 (3rd Cir., Aug. 31, 2017), which required the EPA to consider further information and take any appropriate action with regard to the final rule.

- **Office of Water's Compensatory Mitigation Rulemaking**

This week the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) issued invitation letters to states, tribes, and small business entities to participate in pre-proposal stakeholder outreach for the Agencies' forthcoming compensatory mitigation rulemaking. Pre-proposal stakeholder outreach will begin with two in-person meetings on June 20, the first meeting with the ten major state organizations and the second with small business entities. These meetings will be followed by webinars with tribes on June 26 and states on July 23. The EPA and the Corps are planning to propose revisions to their jointly-promulgated regulations titled "Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources" (40 CFR Part 230, Subpart J and 33 CFR Part 332).

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **Nutrient Financing Webinar to Improve Water Quality**

This week, the EPA and USDA kicked off their four-part webinar series on financing opportunities that states, tribes and stakeholders can pursue to implement water quality improvements on a watershed- and landscape-scale. The first webinar, Federal Financing for Nutrient Reductions – Grants and Lending Opportunities, had more than 660 participants. Throughout the summer, the EPA and USDA will host three additional webinars to identify and present innovative financing concepts for reducing excess nutrients, including private sector financing solutions and stormwater nutrient reduction. All webinars are open to the public and archived for future viewing.

- **Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC) Meeting**

Next week, Deputy Assistant Administrator Lee Forsgren will attend the MBCC meeting to approve acquisitions and boundary additions to the National Wildlife Refuge System and approve funding for the slate of grant projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). Along with the EPA, the voting members of the Commission include the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, two members of the Senate, and two members of the House. Closed press.